

## AIR FORCE SATELLITE CONTROL FACILITY (AFSCF)

**GENERAL:** The AFSCF is a worldwide network of twelve satellite tracking stations at seven geographically dispersed locations, a control center (the Satellite Test Center (STC) at Onizuka AFS, CA), and other resources required for on-orbit and pre-launch testing of space programs.

**MISSION:** The AFSCF provides tracking, commanding, telemetry data collection, and data processing for DOD, NATO, and other space programs. The network simultaneously supports large numbers of on-orbit satellites 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The AFSCF also supports the shuttle and shuttle payloads. As satellite systems provide increasingly important support to operating forces, the mission of the AFSCF becomes more critical.

### PROGRAM

**STATUS:** The AFSCF was initially configured during 1956-1957 to provide on-orbit support for early DOD satellite programs. Since then, many new space programs have been added and older ones have been upgraded or deleted. Although workload fluctuates with the number of on-orbit satellites, an average of 55 satellites is normally supported by the AFSCF. The number has been growing and is projected to increase during the next five years due to longer satellite lifespans, new programs, the maturation of programs from the development/test stage to the operational stage, and the increased capabilities/complexity of spacecraft. To accommodate projected growth in numbers and increased importance of space assets, the AFSCF is upgrading the network to be more cost effective and adding network capacity. Three phases of this upgrade are the Data Systems Modernization (DSM), the Automated Remote Tracking Station (ARTS) and the Communications Upgrade programs. DSM will reach full operational capability in FY 87 and will replace old computer equipment and software at the remote tracking stations and the STC with new software and hardware which is less costly to maintain and more efficient. ARTS will develop a new tracking station design, provide two new tracking stations, and modify existing stations to the ARTS design. The Communications Upgrade is in conjunction with the communications installation at the Consolidated Space Operations Center. This upgrade will expand the capacity of the communication links to accommodate high data rates of future satellite programs. These upgrades will be completed in FY 92.

### FUNDING (\$ in Millions):

	<u>Prior</u>	<u>FY 87</u>	<u>FY 88</u>	<u>FY 89</u>	<u>To Comp</u>	<u>Total</u>
Procurement	61.2	97.3	113.7	53.9	Cont	Cont
RDT&E	77.3	78.7	109.5	126.9	Cont	Cont
MILCON	11.1	2.6	7.5	12.8	Cont	Cont

**CONTRACTORS:** IBM/Gaithersburg, MD  
Lockheed Missile and Space Co/Sunnyvale, CA  
Ford Aerospace Communications Corp/Palo Alto, CA  
Applied Research, Inc/Santa Clara, CA  
Ultrasystems, Inc/San Jose, CA

